

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in light of the amendments and remarks made herein. Claim 1-17 stand rejected under § 103(a) as being obvious over 5,818,723 to Dimitri (hereinafter referred to as "Dimitri") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,440,637 to VanFleet (hereinafter referred to as "VanFleet") and U.S. Patent No. 6,324,608 to Papa et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Papa"). Claims 18-20 stand rejected under § 103(a) as being obvious over Dimitri in view of VanFleet and Papa and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,303,214 to Kulakowski et al (hereinafter referred to as "Kulakowski"). Claims 2-20 are canceled without prejudice. New claims 21-40 are presented for examination.

In brief, the present claimed invention is directed to: (a) a frame; (b) a shelf system; (c) drive means capable of receiving a data cartridge that contains recording medium wherein the drive means is also capable of reading and writing data to and from the medium; (d) a magazine transport device for moving a data cartridge, (e) a cartridge transport device for moving a data cartridge between a data cartridge magazine and the drive means; (f) a power supply for receiving AC power from an external environment and producing DC power in a form suitable for use by the drive means; (g) a flat power conductor extending from a first end to a second end, the flat conductor electrically connected to the power supply; and at least a first tap located between the first and second ends wherein the tap is capable of providing electrical power from the power supply to the drive means via the flat power conductor.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dimitri in view of VanFleet and Papa.

Dimitri is directed to a quick access data storage library with backup capability featuring bins for supporting magazines containing data storage media. The magazines can be inserted in or withdrawn from front open sides of the bins by a front magazine picker or inserted in or withdrawn from back open sides of the bins by a back magazine picker. The magazines can be moved to drives by a transport assembly whereby storage media can be transported from the magazines to the drive.

VanFleet is directed to a listening and display unit for playing and displaying audio recordings (such as music tapes). The unit includes a display surface for promotional and instructional messages, two or more audio jacks for connecting an audio player to a head phone jack, an AC/DC power unit to power the player units, and recessed areas for holding recordings in various media (see Abstract, Column 2, lines 53-67).

Papa is directed to methods of removing and replacing data processing circuitry in a computer without powering down the computer. Papa relies on powering down a first interface module via a power control circuit without powering down the computer such that the computer is provided arbitrary access to a second interface module prior to removing the first interface module. In the process of removing the first interface module from the computer, Papa electrically terminates and isolates electrical hardware of the computer upstream of the point where the first interface module is removed.

Claim 1 is amended herein and recites, "...a conductor, operatively attached to said frame, said conductor comprising both a first and second flat external surface that each extend from a first end to a second end wherein said second flat external surface is parallel to said first flat external surface between which DC power is conveyed; said conductor further comprising at least a first tap located between said first and second ends wherein said first tap provides electrical access for said drive means to receive said DC power from said power supply conveyed along said conductor in at least one common path in a direction between said first and second ends." Nowhere does Dimitri or VanFleet or Papa disclose, teach, or suggest a flat conductor with a common electrical path comprising taps into the common electrical path enough to provide power to a drive means. Because, singly or in combination, Dimitri or VanFleet or Papa fail to teach or suggest each element of claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer herein, obviating the rejections. Applicant may pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in this or other related applications.

Claims 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dimitri in view of VanFleet and Papa and Kulakowski.

Claims 18-20 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer herein, obviating the rejections. Applicant may pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in this or other

related applications.

New Claim Presented Herein

New claim 21 depends from claim 1 and features “said connector comprises at least a first electrical pathway corresponding to a first voltage and first ground and a second electrical pathway corresponding to a second voltage and second ground.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 21, and thus claim 21 is allowable.

New claim 22 depends from claim 21 and features “said first voltage is 12 volts and said second voltage is 5 volts.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 22, and thus claim 22 is allowable.

New claim 23 depends from claim 21 and features “said first and second pathway can carry sufficient power to provide power to a plurality of drive.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraphs [0162] and [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 23, and thus claim 23 is allowable.

New claim 24 depends from claim 1 and features “said first tap is capable of electrically connecting with a first plug.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 24, and thus claim 24 is allowable.

New claim 25 depends from claim 24 and features “a second tap that is located between said first and second end of said conductor and is capable of electrically connecting with a second plug.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 25, and thus claim 25 is allowable.

New claim 26 depends from claim 24 and features “power is provided to said drive means from said conductor when said first plug cooperates with a third plug linked with said

drive means.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0166] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 26, and thus claim 26 is allowable.

New claim 27 depends from claim 1 and features “said conductor is for providing power exclusively to said drive means.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 27, and thus claim 27 is allowable.

New claim 28 depends from claim 1 and features “said first tap can provide said electrical access with said drive means, said drive means comprising a plurality of drives.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0162 and 0166] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 28, and thus claim 28 is allowable.

New claim 29 depends from claim 1 and features “said conductor is fixedly attached to a channel member associated with said frame.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0164] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 29, and thus claim 29 is allowable.

New claim 30 depends from claim 1 and features “said conductor further comprises a second and third tap, wherein each of said taps is associated with a drive bay each adapted to accommodate at least one drive.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 30, and thus claim 30 is allowable.

New claim 31 depends from claim 1 and features “said conductor further comprises a connector substantially disposed at said first end.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0166] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A and 27C. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 31, and thus claim 31 is allowable.

New claim 32 depends from claim 31 and features “said conductor further comprises a connector substantially disposed at said second end.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0166] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A and 27C. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 32, and thus claim 32 is allowable.

New claim 33 depends from claim 1 and features “said power supply is connected to said conductor at said first end.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0166] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A and 27C. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 33, and thus claim 33 is allowable.

New claim 34 features a frame, a drive means, a power supply, “a flat power conductor extending from a first end to a second end, said flat conductor electrically connected to said power supply; at least a first tap located between said first and second ends wherein said tap is capable of providing electrical power from said power supply in at least one common path to said drive means via said flat power conductor.” This feature is generally described in Applicant’s disclosure and claim 1 and specifically described, for example, in paragraph [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 34, and thus claim 34 is allowable.

New claim 35 depends from claim 34 and features “said drive means is a disk drive.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0161] of Applicant’s disclosure. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 35, and thus claim 35 is allowable.

New claim 36 depends from claim 34 and features “said flat connector comprises at least an electrical pathway for a first voltage and first ground and a second voltage and second ground.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraph [0162] and [0165] of Applicant’s disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 36, and thus claim 36 is allowable.

New claim 37 depends from claim 34 and features “said first tap is capable of electrically connecting with a first plug.” This feature is disclosed, for example, in

paragraphs [0162] and [0165] of Applicant's disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 37, and thus claim 37 is allowable.

New claim 38 depends from claim 34 and features "disk drive connects with a plug connected to said first tap." This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraphs [0161], [0165 and [0166] of Applicant's disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 38, and thus claim 38 is allowable.

New claim 39 depends from claim 34 and features "said power conductor is fixedly disposed along said frame and wherein said power conductor provides a second tap and a third tap, each of said taps providing power to a corresponding drive bay, said drive bay capable of holding at least one drive." This feature is disclosed, for example, in paragraphs [0162] –[0166] of Applicant's disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 39, and thus claim 39 is allowable.

New claim 40 features a plurality of drives, a power supply, "a flat power conductor for transmitting said power from said power supply to said drives wherein said flat power conductor extends in length between a first end and a second end wherein a cross-section of said flat power conductor between said first and second ends is substantially rectangular, said flat power conductor comprising: at least one common power line and ground to transmit said power, a plurality of taps located between said two ends wherein said drives are electrically connected to said flat power conductor via said taps." This feature is generally in Applicant's disclosure and claim 1 and specifically, for example, in paragraphs [0162]-[0166] of Applicant's disclosure and in FIGS. 27A-27D. None of the prior art of record, including Dimitri, VanFleet, Papa and Kulakowski, appears to describe, teach, or suggest the invention of claim 40, and thus claim 40 is allowable.


* * *

Authorization To Charge Necessary Fees

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional necessary fees associated with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 7/17/06


Kenneth Altshuler
Reg. No. 50,551

Correspondence Address

WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP
101 South Salina Street, Suite 400
Syracuse, New York 13202
Telephone: (315) 425-9000
Facsimile: (315) 425-9114

Customer No.: 20874

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE